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Attorney Docket No. 4600-0293.20

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Date: 5-24-01

By: *Deborah Bratton Meyer*

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Fuerst et al.

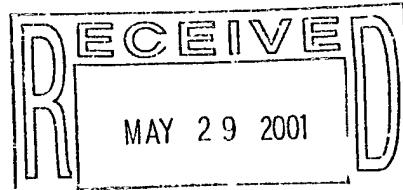
SERIAL No.: 09/769,066

FILED: January 24, 2001

FOR: HEPATITIS E VIRUS ANTIGENS AND
USES THEREFOR

EXAMINER: Unknown

ART UNIT: 1648



Second Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Omitted Item(s) in a Nonprovisional Application dated May 11, 2001 in the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 28 of page 10 with the paragraph below:

Figures 2A to 2D, presents the nucleotide sequence of ORF2 and ORF3, showing the nucleotide sequences of the HEV ORF2 and ORF3 for Burma (upper line) and Mexico (lower line) strains of HEV;

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08/542,634

Attorney Docket No. 4600-0293.20

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Figures 2A-2E presented in parent application 08/542,634 were consolidated into Figures 2A-2D filed with the application papers in the instant application. The specification has been amended to correct the Brief Description of the Drawings.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In view of the foregoing, the applicant submits that application is complete as of the accorded filing date.

If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 324-0880.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry Thrower
Registration No. 47,994

Date: 5-24-01

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 22918
Phone: (650) 324-0880



U. S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 4600-0293.20

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Figures 2A to 2ED, presents the nucleotide sequence of ORF2 and ORF3, showing the nucleotide sequences of the HEV ORF2 and ORF3 for Burma (upper line) and Mexico (lower line) strains of HEV;